104-10151-10168

OLC 76-3580
ER # 76-4021

Washington, D.C. 20505

5 DEC 1976

JFK ACT RELEASE

Honorable Thomas N. Downing, Chairman
Select Committee on Assassinations
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1993
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Mr. Lyle Miller, of my staff, has relayed to me the interest of your Chief Counsel, Mr. Richard Sprague, that records related to the investigation of the deaths of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr. not be destroyed once the "moratorium" on the destruction of Agency records is lifted. Let me assure you that there is no cause for concern.

The "moratorium" was imposed on the destruction of CIA records in 1975 during the investigation by the Senate Select Committee to Study Governmental Operations with Respect to Intelligence Activities and will expire on 10 December 1976. At that time regular document destruction will begin in accordance with records control schedules approved by the Archivist of the United States and subject to review by the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. The Agency's policy in regard to the lifting of the destruction "moratorium" and the application of records control schedules to the orderly disposition of Agency records was published in the Federal Register, a copy of which is enclosed.

It is CIA's policy to fully support investigative bodies of the Executive, Legislative, or Judicial Branch, and we will continue to do so. Once the "moratorium" is lifted, we will destroy no materials which would appear to relate to your investigations or be of interest to your Committee. Further, we will make available for your review the lists for disposition of records prepared for the Archivist at the same time these lists are submitted to the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Material designated for destruction in the lists will not be destroyed until your Committee notifies the Agency that it has completed its review, and has no objection. To date, 15 lists have been furnished to the Senate Select Committee and they will be made available for your review immediately.

21828

I assure you that no documents which we are aware of as being related to your investigation will be destroyed.

Sincerely,

BY[illegible]

George Bush

Enclosure

Distribution:
Orig. - Addressee w/encl.
1 - DCI w/encl.
1 - DDCI wo/encl.
1 - DDO w/encl.
1 - DDA (Hal Bean) w/encl.
1 - OGC w/encl.
1 - IG w/encl. OLC/Subj. w/encl.
1 - ER w/encl. OLC/Chrono wo/encl.
OLC:PLC:dla (typed 7 December 1976)